

Message Text

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DRAFTED BY EUR:LBLAINGEN:LJP

APPROVED BY THE SECRETARY

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S - THE SECRETARY

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY LISBON IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T STATE 170880

NODIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT, PO

SUBJECT: INSTRUCTION TO AMBASSADOR CARLUCCI

FOR THE AMBASSADOR FROM THE SECRETARY

1. I HAVE SEEN THE REPORTS OF YOUR EXCHANGE WITH COSTA GOMES' CHIEF OF CABINET IN WHICH YOU INDICATED YOUR CONCERN OVER THE RECENT TREND IN PORTUGAL AND RAISED THE QUESTION WHETHER A DIRECT APPROACH TO COSTA GOMES ON YOUR PART WOULD BE HELPFUL. AS YOU REPORTED, HE APPARENTLY FEELS THIS WOULD NOT BE THE CASE JUST NOW AND WE SHOULD RESPECT THAT POSITION FOR THE PRESENT.

2. AT THE SAME TIME I HOPE YOU WILL FIND WAYS TO CONTINUE TO GET THE MESSAGE ACROSS, BOTH TO COSTA GOMES HIMSELF AND TO OTHER MODERATE ELEMENTS IN THE GOP AND THE AFM, THAT THEY WILL HAVE OUR SUPPORT IF THEY DECIDE TO ACT TO REDUCE THE INFLUENCE OF RADICAL ELEMENTS. YOU HAVE BEEN RIGHT IN

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DEFLECTING RECENT OVERTURES FROM SOCIALISTS AND OTHER

SOURCES REGARDING MILITARY SUPPORT. THERE WILL BE OTHER WAYS, SUCH AS ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE, IN WHICH WE CAN ACT TO BOLSTER THE AFM MODERATES SHOULD THEY NOW ACT, AS IT SEEMS TO ME THEY SHOULD, TO EXPLOIT THE OPPORTUNITY AVAILABLE TO THEM IN THE DEMONSTRATED POPULAR STRENGTH OF MODERATE POLITICAL FORCES.

3. UNLESS YOU SEE PARTICULAR REASON NOT TO DO SO, YOU SHOULD ALSO FIND AN OPPORTUNITY SPECIFICALLY TO GET THESE POINTS ACROSS TO ANTUNES. YOU SHOULD INDICATE TO HIM THAT A CONTINUED DETERIORATION OF THE PORTUGUESE POLITICAL SITUATION IN FAVOR OF RADICAL ELEMENTS WILL MAKE IT EXTREMELY DIFFICULT FOR US TO GET SUPPORT FROM THE AMERICAN PUBLIC AND THE CONGRESS FOR FURTHER ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE.

4. YOU WILL BE ADVISED BY SEPTTEL REGARDING ANY POSSIBLE APPROACHES WE DECIDE TO MAKE TO SOVIETS. KISSINGER

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